

Sample Parent/Guardian Letter

Introducing the Unit

[Your School's Letterhead]

Date

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of our ongoing efforts to foster a school climate of respect for one's self and others, and as part of our 7th [or 8th] grade health [home and family life, science] curriculum, we will begin a unit on Family Life and Sexual Health on _____. We want to let you know of the unit for three reasons.

First, some of you previewed these materials at the open house this fall. If you did not, I would welcome your contacting the district, so that you might preview them now.

[Contact info here. Alternately, invite families to a special preview night.]

Second, some of you may prefer to have your child excused from class during this unit or parts of it. He or she can study in the school library instead. I can provide alternate assignments. I can also provide you with the same family homework from this unit that other families will receive, in case you want to do some of this teaching yourself. If you wish to excuse your child, please let me know.

Finally, for those whose child *does* participate, we want to encourage you to discuss the issue at home, too. Your child may bring home "family homework exercises" to do with an adult in the family (however he or she defines "family"). These assignments are strictly optional. They are also confidential; students will NOT be asked to report back what you have discussed. The purpose of these assignments is simply to give you a chance to communicate with one another. If more than one adult in the family wants to participate in these exercises, that's great. You may want to take turns, so the student gets special time with each adult, instead of having to share with two or three at once.

Please give me a call if you have any questions. I would be glad to discuss the philosophy of the curriculum with you.

Sincerely,

Teacher, Principal, Counselor or Nurse

Telephone Number

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